

Minutes from the WeCAN Meeting held at Westfield City Hall Assembly Room on
January 27, 2009 at 7 pm.

Disclaimer: I hope you will find these notes helpful. They are not a complete representation of the meeting, but rather the highlights of topics discussed. Feel free to contact me at Westfield City Services Building (317) 804-3002 if you have any questions. -TB

January 27, 2009

Agenda

- I. Announcements
- II. Energy and Climate Uncertainty Presentation
- III. Grand Junction Presentation
- IV. Ending Announcements

I. Announcements

The next WeCAN Meeting will be Tuesday, February 24.

Trash/Recycling Update by Tamara Cunningham

- Approximately 6,500 residents are now in service; that number will go to 7,600 on February 2nd.
- We are currently averaging 5 tons of recycling per day or approximately 90 tons of recycling to date!!!
- Ray's is reporting a 75% recycling participation rate – that is up from a 35% participation rate for Republic's Westfield customers.
- Countryside's first day of pick up will begin Tuesday Feb. 3rd and Merrimac's will be Wednesday Feb. 4th. These will be the weekly pick up days for both trash and recycling.
- For Merrimac and Countryside – their last pick up day from Republic will be Thursday January 29th – carts may be picked up the same day.
- Ray's began delivering carts and "pick-up day notifications" to Merrimac and Countryside yesterday, they will continue through the remainder of this week until all carts are delivered.
- Amnesty Day for unwanted plastic and metal containers, will be FIRST week in March on your normal scheduled pick up day. A reminder will be mailed in the February billing.
- The February bill will have the trash line item fee for all residents who began service in January. If you have a mid month bill, your first month's line item fee will be prorated for the additional days and then go back to \$11.00 each month thereafter. If you started service in February, you will not see the line item fee until March's bill.

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- We have overage bags for sale at the Dept of Public Works Customer Service area. The bags are \$1.00 each.
- As a reminder, each residential household may request up to a third cart at no additional charge. It can either be a trash or recycling cart and again, you can choose your cart size for each. Just call Ray's directly at 1-800-531-6752 to request it.

Smoking Ban Survey Update

A County smoking ban survey with heavy Westfield surveying is being developed at the County level. More details to follow as they become available.

Larry Long, Coordinator for the Hamilton County Tobacco Control Coalition has provided some studies that focus on the economic impact that smokefree ordinances have had in other places. You may access them on the WeCAN Site.

Coyotes in Brookside

Several coyotes have been spotted in Brookside and some other neighborhoods. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Conflicts Information Hotline Number is 1-800-893-4116 and their website is www.IN.gov/dnr/fishwild. You can also view an informational sheet on [Coping with Coyotes](#).

Westfield Ready

Please fill out the [Neighborhood Hub Survey](#) that posted on the WeCAN site for your neighborhood. Your cooperation is very important for the Emergency Preparedness Plan. The City needs to be able to have a physical place and contact information to disseminate information to all the residents of Westfield in the event of an emergency, especially when means of communication may be limited.

II. Energy and Climate Uncertainty

John Richardson, resident of Westfield, gave an informative presentation on Energy and Climate Uncertainty. The Post Carbon Cities guidebook has five long-term principles:

1. Deal with transportation and land use
2. Tackle private energy consumption
3. Attack the problems piece-by-piece and from many angles
4. Plan for fundamental changes... and make fundamental changes happen
5. Build a sense of community

Mr. Richardson pointed out that Westfield is already implementing some of the items on these lists.

On a local level, what can WeCAN and Westfield do to address the issue further?

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The presentation and discussion suggested that a group should research the issues with objectivity, discarding old assumptions. Specifically, the group could look at the Peak Oil impacts and vulnerabilities of Westfield and the regional area in the areas of Land Use/Transportation, Economy, Public and Social Services, and Food & Agriculture.

The federal government can't be counted on for an issue like this. It has to come from the local level. Cities around the county are forming task forces; an example is Bloomington, IN. A question came up on what Indianapolis is doing and that this could be a regional task group.

No group was formed at this meeting at this time. If you are interested in being a part of a task group, please let me or John Richardson know.

Please click here for the complete [presentation](#).

III. Grand Junction Presentation

Steve Hoover gave an update on the Grand Junction Plans. He gave the same [presentation](#) that was presented to the Chamber of Commerce on December 18, 2008 (posted on the homepage of the City of Westfield website (www.westfield.in.gov)).

Jim Anderson and Bryan Stumpf will be presenting the same Grand Junction plan at two upcoming meetings, both at 7pm: Thursday, January 29 - Centennial Bible Church and Thursday, February 5 - Carey Ridge Elementary School - Multi-Purpose Room. If necessary, more meetings can be scheduled - I will get that information out to you. Please note that these informational meetings are intended to provide residents with an update on the Grand Junction Plan. The meetings are not part of the formal public hearing process. Those will occur at a City Council Meeting in the future.

The Grand Junction Plan comes out of the Comprehensive Plan that was started 4 years ago. It was adopted 2 years ago by the Town Council. The Comprehensive Plan identified the downtown area as needing a separate study; hence the Grand Junction Task Group was formed.

The Grand Junction Task Group is working on the Final Master Plan and will present it to the City as a way to move forward in the downtown area.

The plan is separated into Short-Term (years 1-3), Intermediate-Term (years 3-8), and Long-Term (years 8+). The Short-Term is the most difficult to get private investment interested because they need to see something happening in the area first before investing in the location. The Long-Term vision is a live-work-play environment.

The plan includes estimates for public and private investments. The Grand Junction Group interviewed the City of Westfield and INDOT and took suggestions on options and alternatives.

During the discussion, the question of who was on the Grand Junction Committee came up. This information was presented at the July 22, 2008 WeCAN Meeting and is posted under [Downtown Westfield Presentation](#). The updated list is below:

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GJTG Core Members: Jim Anderson, Ken Kingshill, Mic Mead, Dave Mueller, Steve Reitmeyer, Melody Sweat, Chuck Watson, John Whitaker

Additional Participants: Steve Hoover, Brad Johnson, Darlene Lorenz, Jennifer Miller, Tenna Pershing, Bryan Stumpf, Sarah Wingfield, Joe Edwards, Dr. Mark Keen

There were also questions regarding the TIF districts and the ability to fund the project. The presentation outlines some financial aspects of the project including returns on public and private investments.

As important elements in developing a community destination, locations have been suggested for both the Library and City Hall. The exact requirements of City Hall are unknown at this time; consequently an estimate of \$12 Million has been shown for this element of the plan but not included in the totals. The library is an independent entity, therefore any costs associated with its development is not within the scope of the Grand Junction Task Group.

IV. Closing Announcements

Request for Mayor to Speak at Neighborhood Meetings in 2009

The Mayor is making himself available to meet with all neighborhoods in 2009. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity: please email me the date, time, location, contact name and phone number or email of your neighborhood's meeting.

February 24th WeCAN Meeting Agenda

A Fireworks Ordinance Draft
Adopt-a-Highway/Adopt-a-Street
Property Assessments

We did not have a chance at the meeting to discuss what questions residents may have regarding property assessments. The property assessment presentation will be an overview of the process, what assessments are based on, how sales information is used, the importance of exemptions, and the tax caps. Please let me know if you have any additional topic suggestions.

Neighborhood Representation

Please make sure to email me contact information for someone from your neighborhood that will attend the WeCAN meetings when your HOA has board member transitions.

There are still some neighborhoods that are not represented at WeCAN. Please look over the [list](#) and encourage your contacts in those areas to become involved.

If you have questions/suggestions, please email Tammy at tblackburn@westfield.in.gov.
Thank you!